

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for modulating behavioral and neurological adaptive responsiveness to stress including anxiety comprising the step of applying to the brain or central nervous system a therapeutically effective amount of an inhibitor to the DP IV enzyme or of DP IV - like enzyme whereby enzymatic activity of said enzyme is reduced.

2. (Original) A method for reducing degradation of the endogenous, CNS-localized neuropeptide Y (NPY) and other substrates sharing similar properties comprising the step of providing to the site where such degradation is desired a therapeutically effective amount of a competitive inhibitor of the dipeptidyl peptidase (DP IV or CD 26) or of DP IV - like enzyme.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein application of said inhibitors results in therapy of psychosomatic, depressive and neuropsychiatric diseases selected from the group consisting of anxiety disorders, depression, insomnia, chronic fatigue, schizophrenia, epilepsy, eating disorders, spasm and chronic pain.

a! 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claims 1 ~~and 2~~ wherein said inhibitors will be present in a physiologically compatible drug delivery vehicle.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claims 1, ~~2 and 3~~ wherein said inhibitors are formulated as prodrugs of the free inhibitors.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claims 1, ~~2, 3 and 4~~ wherein said DP IV-inhibitors are applied parenterally, enterally, orally, by inhalation or suppository.

7. (New) The method of claim 2 wherein said inhibitors will be present in a physiologically compatible drug delivery vehicle.

8. (New) The method of claim 2 wherein said inhibitors are formulated as prodrugs of the free inhibitors.

9. (New) The method of claim 3 wherein said inhibitors are formulated as prodrugs of the free inhibitors.

10. (New) The method of claim 2 wherein said DP IV-inhibitors are applied parenterally, enterally, orally, by inhalation or suppository.

11. (New) The method of claim 3 wherein said DP IV-inhibitors are applied parenterally, enterally, orally, by inhalation or suppository.

a' 12. (New) The method of claim 4 wherein said DP IV-inhibitors are applied parenterally, enterally, orally, by inhalation or suppository.

13. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein said DP IV-inhibitors are applied parenterally, enterally, orally, by inhalation or suppository.
